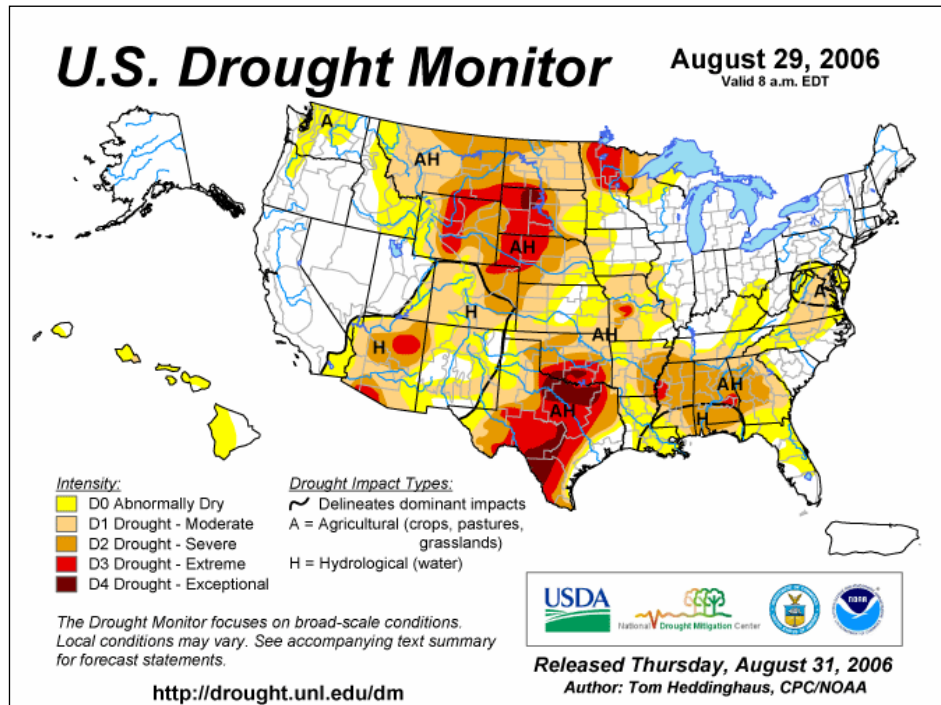


Summary of 2006 U.S. Cotton Crop Conditions September 2006

- According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's *U.S. Drought Monitor*, conditions ranging from abnormally dry to an exceptional drought have blanketed the Cotton Belt from Virginia to Arizona. The growing season has been characterized by below-normal precipitation and above-normal temperatures.



- USDA's disaster declarations include 334 cotton production counties, covering almost 80% of U.S. cotton acreage. In a number of states, all cotton-producing counties have received Secretarial disaster declarations.

% of Cotton Acres in Disaster-Declared Counties

US	79%	Mississippi	100%
Alabama	100%	Missouri	0%
Arizona	100%	New Mexico	100%
Arkansas	51%	North Carolina	11%
California	97%	Oklahoma	75%
Florida	87%	South Carolina	9%
Georgia	100%	Tennessee	21%
Kansas	56%	Texas	100%
Louisiana	55%	Virginia	100%

- USDA estimates that 2.5 million acres of U.S. cotton acreage will be lost due to extreme weather conditions. Of the remaining acres expected to be harvested, 4.2 million acres are classified as either 'Poor' or 'Very Poor' (P/VP). The combined result suggests that 44% of this year's cotton acreage will either be abandoned or have poor yield potential.
- States with the highest percentages of acreage in the Abandoned or P/VP categories include Oklahoma at 71%, followed by Texas and Alabama, at 70% and 69%, respectively.

Condition of U.S. Cotton Acreage (Thousand Acres)

	Acres Planted	Acres Abandoned	Acres Rated Poor/Very Poor	% Abandoned or Rated P/VP
Alabama	570	40	355	69%
Arizona	227	2	2	2%
Arkansas	1,150	10	80	8%
California	600	4	0	1%
Florida	105	1		1%
Georgia	1,400	70	572	46%
Kansas	100	5	19	24%
Louisiana	660	10	104	17%
Mississippi	1,210	10	408	35%
Missouri	485	5	24	6%
New Mexico	63	0		0%
North Carolina	880	5	123	14%
Oklahoma	300	90	124	71%
South Carolina	300	2	36	13%
Tennessee	700	5	35	6%
Texas	6,426	2,201	2,324	70%
Virginia	100	1	11	12%
United States	15,276	2,461	4,216	44%